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AS

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/281,089 03/30/99 KUHN H 1996A

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IM22/0108

EXAMINER

GUARRIELLO, J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1771

DATE MAILED:

01/08/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/28/089

Applicant(s)

Kuhn et al.

Examiner

John Guarriello

Group Art Unit

177.1

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

15. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

16. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, line 1, it is not clear what the terms “coprecipitate” and “copolymer” encompass, since iron oxide hydroxide and aluminum oxide hydroxide are inorganic species **not** polymeric species.

In claim 2, line 1, is is not clear what the phrase “substantially goethite” encompasses since the specification states on page 13, line 1, “coating comprises goethite, lepidocrocite, hematite, magnetite or a combination of

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these forms". It appears that the coating of "goethite" is not substantially "goethite".

17. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

18. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The term "copolymer" is usually referred to polymeric species, not inorganic ionic species. The specification on page 11, line 5; page 12, line 8; page 12, line 21(copolymerized) refers to "copolymer" or "copolymerized" with regard to the interaction of the ionic species. These terms refer to polymeric species not inorganic ionic species. This violates the

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written description requirement since these terms are used out of usual context with regard to chemical interaction.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

19. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

20. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishino et al. 4,911,957 in view of Watanabe et al. 4,435,220.

Ishino describes composite ferrite textiles and how a film can be deposited on a fibrous substrate (like a textile) within certain ranges of pH, and concentration of ions (column 1, lines 15-20; column 2, lines 1-14; lines 58-68).

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Ishino describes how other ions can be added, like aluminum in a water soluble salt forming a mixed species, (column 3, lines 1-10). Ishino differs from the claimed invention because the specific aluminum salts are not stated.

Watanabe describes transparent colored pigments of metal oxide or metal hydroxide, which are used for changing the color of pigments, (column 3, lines 10-39).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify ferrite textile of Ishino with the aluminum hydroxide salts of Watanabe motivated with the expectation that the coating produced on the textile would give enhanced properties of color reflectivity. It would be within the skill of the artisan to optimize the amounts of the components as Watanabe indicates, so as to achieve color shade by mixing proportions of the metal oxides, (column 3, lines 35-39).

21. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John J. Guarriello whose telephone

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number is (703) 308-3209. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8 am to 4 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrel Morris, can be reached on (703) 308-2414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-5408.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.



John J. Guarriello:gj

Patent Examiner

December 12, 2000

December 19, 2000

December 27, 2000



BLAINE COPENHEAVER
PRIMARY EXAMINER